CLAIMS:

1.   A method of call admission control for a continuous stream of data in packet switched networks including at least two local area networks communicating with one another across a connecting network, the method comprising the steps of:

   a)   determining success rates of previous calls from a first local area network to a second local area network;

   b)   deciding to drop the call attempt based on the success rates of previous calls.

2.   A method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

   c)   determining current packet loss rate for calls from the first local area network to the second local area network; and

   d)   deciding to drop the call attempt based on the current packet loss rate.

3.   A method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of:

   e)   deciding to drop the call attempt based on the current packet loss rate and the success rates of previous calls.

4.   A method according to claim 2 or 3, wherein step d) includes the steps of:

   f)   transmitting a burst of trial data from a first node in the first local area network through the connecting network to a second node in the second local area network;

   g)   reflecting the burst of trial data received at the second node back to the first node;

   h)   receiving the reflected burst of trial data at the first node through the connecting network; and

   i)   comparing the reflected burst of trial data to the transmitted burst of trial data to determine whether transmission of a continuous

stream of data can be initiated from the first node in the first local area network to the second node in the second local area network.